



Conservation Practice Overview

July 2022

Vertical Drain (Code 630)

A vertical drain is a well, pipe, pit, or bore in porous underground strata into which drainage water can be discharged without contaminating groundwater resources.

Practice Information

The purpose of a vertical drain is to provide an outlet for drainage water from a surface or subsurface drainage system.



This practice is applicable in locations where the underlying strata can receive, transmit, or store the design drainage flow, and other drainage outlets are available and cannot be provided at a reasonable cost. This practice is also subject to any State or local laws and is subject to an evaluation indicating it will not cause pollution of groundwater. A vertical drain will require maintenance over the expected life of the practice.

Common Associated Practices

A Vertical Drain (630) is commonly applied with conservation practices such as Diversion (362), Open Channel (582), Subsurface Drain (606), Lined Waterway or Outlet (468), Grassed Waterway (412), and Underground Outlet (620).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.